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| APPLICATION NO.            | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.   | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 09/626,535                 | 07/27/2000  | Donald F. Hooper     | 10559-137002 / P7876X | 1214             |
| 20985                      | 7590        | 11/06/2009           |                       |                  |
| FISH & RICHARDSON, PC      |             |                      | EXAMINER              |                  |
| P.O. BOX 1022              |             |                      | ENG, DAVID Y          |                  |
| MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022 |             |                      | ART UNIT              | PAPER NUMBER     |
|                            |             |                      | 2455                  |                  |
| NOTIFICATION DATE          |             | DELIVERY MODE        |                       |                  |
| 11/06/2009                 |             | ELECTRONIC           |                       |                  |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

[PATDOCTC@fr.com](mailto:PATDOCTC@fr.com)

|                              |                          |                  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No.          | Applicant(s)     |
|                              | 09/626,535               | HOOPER ET AL.    |
|                              | Examiner<br>DAVID Y. ENG | Art Unit<br>2455 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(o).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 June 2009.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 7-17, 21 and 22 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 7-17, 21 and 22 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/22/2009

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

Claims 1, 3-6 and 18-20 are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 2 has been cancelled. The active claims are 7-17 and 21-22 of which claims 7 and 15 are independent claims. Applicants are requested to cancel the non-elected claims 1, 3-6 and 18-20.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 7-17 and 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kahle et al (USP 6,212,542) in view of Belkin (USP 6,604,125).

Details of the rejection have already been set forth in the last Office action. The details are incorporated herein by reference thereto.

#### **Claim 22**

As to the newly added claim 22, the claim merely clarify that the packet processed by the engines is of Ethernet type and that the access control device is also of Ethernet type. The method steps are independent from whether or not the packet is of Ethernet type. The recitation in claim 22 does not functionally affect the method steps of parent claim 7. The recitation is descriptive in nature and therefore in non-functional descriptive material. The limitation set forth in claim 22 is not patentably distinct over the applied reference.

**Response**

Applicants asked what in Kahle is being equated with the first or second portions of the network packet or what in Kahle describes the simultaneous processing of these portions by the threads (independent claims 7 and 15). The Examiner has already explained how and where in Kahle teaches those limitations in his previous Office (pages 3-5, dated 4/3/2009). Applicants fail to explain why the rejection is in error and why those limitations are patentably distinct over the applied references (37 CFR 1.111c).

As to the arguments directed to claims 8-11, 13 and 14, in his previous Office action, the Examiner has explained why the limitations in claims 8-11, 13 and 14 are not patentably distinct over the applied references. Applicants fail to explain why the rejection is in error and why those limitations are patentably distinct over the applied references (37 CFR 1.111c). The court held that simply pointing out what a claim requires with no attempt to point out how the claims patentably distinguish over the prior art does not amount to a separate argument for patentability. *In re Nielson*, 816 F.2d 1567, 2 USPQ 1525 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID Y. ENG whose telephone number is 571-272-3984. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8AM to 3PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, SALEH NAJJAR, can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/DAVID Y. ENG/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2455